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The Idea of Nature Public Lecture Series | Interdisciplinary Explorations

2-17-2012

On Metaphor and Progress: Nature in Literature and Landscape Painting in 19th-Century America (Flyer)

Rochelle Johnson
College of Idaho

Thomas Cole (1801-1848). View from Mount Holyoke, Northampton, Massachusetts, after a Thunderstorm - The Oxbow. 1836. Oil on canvas, 51 1/2 x 76 in. (130.8 x 193 cm). Gift of Mrs. Russell Sage, 1908 (08.228). The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, NY, U.S.A. Photo Credit: Image copyright © The Metropolitan Museum of Art. Image source: Art Resource, NY

Interdisciplinary **Explorations**

The Idea of Nature

PUBLIC LECTURE SERIES
SPRING 2012

Friday, February 17, 2012 • 6-7 PM

FREE and Open to Public • Boise State Student Union Building, Simplot Ballroom A-B
Reception following with cash bar and appetizers

Tickets for the receptions are limited: please contact Dr. Harvey at **samanthaharvey@boisestate.edu** or go to **www.boisestate.edu/research/ahi** for more information.

On Metaphor and Progress: Nature in Literature and Landscape Painting in 19th-Century America

Rochelle Johnson
Professor of English, College of Idaho

In the mid-nineteenth century, artists and writers consciously worked together to express the power of the natural landscapes comprising their young nation, the United States. Artistic techniques informed literature, just as literary techniques informed landscape painting. The stories that both writers and artists told figured the landscape as a site of progress, resulting in fascinating uses of metaphor that continue to inform our ideas of nature.

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